



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

Among union movements mention should be made of the Young Men's Christian Association. This organization has had most able leaders and has not only done a great service directly through its work for the Chinese, but has on the one hand exemplified, and so promoted, a broader conception of the scope of Christian missions, and on the other acted as a powerful unifying force among the missionary forces by securing the co-operation of all and demonstrating that sectarianism is not a necessary element of success. Chap. xxiv of the *China Year Book* gives some impression of the work. The report of the previous year gives fuller details of the evangelistic work of the association.

The Young Women's Christian Asso-

ciation, which first entered China in 1903, is aiming to do a work for the higher class of women. Its work has not yet extended beyond a few of the larger cities.

Roman Catholic Missions

Inquiry is often made as to the present condition of Roman Catholic missions in China. The information is not easily obtained. It is the more gratifying to find that the *Year Book* publishes from authoritative sources quite complete statistics. It will probably surprise most of us that the Roman Catholic Christians (exclusive of Catechumens) number eight times as many as the baptized Protestant Christians, and four times as many as the whole Protestant community.

[Professor Burton's discussion will be continued in March "Biblical World"]

SUGGESTIONS FOR LEADERS OF BIBLE CLUBS USING THE OUTLINE COURSES

Every month from October to June there will be presented in this department of the BIBLICAL WORLD suggestions to leaders of Bible Classes, desiring to use as a basis for class work either the outline Bible-study course on "THE LIFE OF CHRIST" prepared by ERNEST D. BURTON, or that on "THE FORESHADOWINGS OF THE CHRIST" by WILLIAM R. HARPER. Suggestions are prepared by GEORGIA LOUISE CHAMBERLIN, Secretary of the Reading and Library Department of the AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF SACRED LITERATURE, who will be glad to consider any questions which club leaders may choose to address to the INSTITUTE.

The Life of Christ¹

In the presentation of the work this month, there is opportunity for careful study of, and special emphasis upon, the development of the character of Jesus under the increasing shadow of the certainty of his approaching death. The events of this period, the final one of the Galilean ministry reveal him as reaching the highest point of

spiritual exaltation, and in spirit completing his sacrificial life, although the actual time of his death was yet in the future. Such sublime moments as that in which Jesus rejected the suggestion of his friend Peter, that the future which he predicted need not be, and in which he rose to the height of transfiguration, should be made to

¹The textbook for this course is *The Life of Christ*, by Ernest D. Burton; 50 cents, plus 4 cents postage. Address the AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF SACRED LITERATURE, Chicago, Ill.

stand out clearly as crises, only in the light of which all the daily deeds, and the more exalted spiritual teachings of this period of his life may be interpreted. As one reads the many lives of Jesus which are to be found, one is impressed with the multiplicity of detail which is rendered important by each author, as, for instance, the spot where this deed was done or the hour at which this thing was said. What the average student needs is not such a study, but such a cultivation of the historic and spiritual imagination as will enable him to see a colossal character rising day by day to greater heights of self-abnegation, and spiritual conception—the God-man striving to translate into the limited language of his followers the spiritual vision to which the world has not yet attained. Not only study, but meditation is necessary on the part of the leader, if he would achieve this result with his class.

Program I

Leader: Jesus' journeys in foreign territory, and their purpose.

Members of the class: (1) The attitude of Jesus toward Gentiles as expressed in the incidents of his northern journey. (2) The relation of Peter to Jesus as thus far developed. (3) Jesus' announcement of his approaching death, his attitude toward it, and that of his disciples. (4) The story of the transfiguration, and a study of its significance to Jesus and to his disciples.

Subject for discussion: Suppose that Jesus had continued his northern journey away from Palestine, and had not returned? How might the history of the world have been different?

Program II

Leader: The Gospel of John and its relation to the great discourses of Jesus.

Members of the class: (1) An imaginative description of the incident of the "Child in the Midst," with an interpretation of Jesus' teaching in this incident. (2) The story of the debtors, and some analogies in modern life. (3) The discourse on the Light of the World, considered in connection with the past nineteen centuries of history. (4) Has the statement of Jesus, "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free," been confirmed by the history of civilization?

Subject for discussion: How greatly were the Pharisees to be condemned for their blindness to the character and teaching of Jesus?

REFERENCE READING

Edersheim, *The Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah*, II, pp. 3-194; Stalker, *The Life of Christ*, pp. 105-11; Edersheim, *Jesus the Messiah*, pp. 242-342; Gilbert, *The Student's Life of Jesus*, pp. 253-97; Farrar, *The Life of Christ*, chaps. xxxiv-xlii; Rhees, *The Life of Jesus*, pp. 138-52; Burton and Mathews, *The Life of Christ*, chaps. xvii-xx; Holtzmann, *The Life of Jesus*, chap. xi; Weiss, *Life of Christ*, Book V, chaps. iii-xii; Book VI, chaps. i-iii; Sanday, *Outlines of the Life of Christ*, pp. 122-37.

Consult Hastings' *Dictionary of Christ and the Gospels* for articles on "Blindness," "Multitude, Feeding of the," "Teaching of the Twelve Apostles," "Announcements of Death," "Forgiveness," "Gentiles," "Hermon," "Little Ones," "Messiah," "Syrophenician Woman," "Tabernacles, Feast of," "Temptation," "Transfiguration." Articles on many of these subjects will be found in the four-volume and the one-volume edition of Hastings' *Bible Dictionary*.

The Foreshadowings of the Christ¹

In the study of the foreshadowings of the Christ in the writings of Isaiah, which will constitute the work of the class for the present month, it will be especially inter-

¹ The textbook for this course is *The Foreshadowings of the Christ*, by William Rainey Harper; 50 cents, plus 4 cents postage. Address the AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF SACRED LITERATURE, University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.

esting to note the various phases of the messianic element. "The king in his beauty" is not more conspicuous than the joy, peace, safety, permanency, and widespread knowledge of Jehovah, which are to characterize the land and the people over which he shall reign. Effectively to present these exalted ideals against the background of weak and vacillating administration of government, invasion of vast armies noted for their cruelty, and finally the horrors of a long-continued siege of an oriental city should be a grateful task to any teacher. No portion of the Old Testament so liberally rewards careful study with rich material for use in popularizing biblical literature.

A study of the complicated political relationships of Assyria and Babylonia in the time of Hezekiah is desirable if one would understand the political temptations which Hezekiah was compelled to face. A full appreciation also of the moral effect of the fall of Samaria is necessary. The deliverance of the Hebrews from the army of Sennacherib, whose invasions marked the reign of Hezekiah, unexplained by any annals of history, provides an unexampled instance of the fulfilment on a stupendous scale of a prophet's word, concerning an event which changed the current of war and conquest for a considerable period of years. To enter sympathetically into the view of the prophet concerning this event, and to regard it, whether through natural means or otherwise, as the work of the hand of Jehovah, is the only key to a true appreciation of the work of this prophet.

Program I

Leader: The political situation in the relationships of Egypt, Assyria, and Northern Israel in the time of Hezekiah.

Members of the class: (1) Hezekiah as a politician. (2) Isaiah's conception of the relation of God to the nations of Syria, Assyria, and Egypt—especially Assyria.

(3) Isaiah as a statesman and his relation to Hezekiah. (4) Readings selected from the sermons of Isaiah previous to the ending of the siege of Jerusalem.

Subject for discussion: Can prayer effect changes in the life of men and nations, or (2) Is it likely that the people were more influenced by the reassurance or the denunciation of Isaiah's sermons in this period?

Program II

Leader: What was involved in the proposed surrender of Hezekiah, from the religious and political point of view?

Members of the class: (1) The last days of the siege and the great deliverance from the point of view of the Hebrews. (2) Reading of some songs of rejoicing. (3) A summary of the ideas of Isaiah concerning the glorious future, and the deliverer. (4) The great deliverance viewed from the standpoint of the Assyrians.

Subject for discussion: Taking into consideration all that we know of the ideals of the common people at this time, and Isaiah's struggle with them, to what extent can we infer that the songs which voice the feeling of the prophets of this period record also the ideals of the people?

REFERENCE READING

Kent, *The History of the Hebrews*, II, pp. 141-58; Wade, *Old Testament History*, pp. 364ff; Smith, *Old Testament History*, chap. xiii; Kent, *Historical Bible*, III, 150-81; Chamberlin, *Hebrew Prophets*, chap. ix; George Adam Smith, *Isaiah*, Vol. I; Sanders and Kent, *Messages of the Earlier Prophets*, pp. 133-69; Goodspeed, *Israel's Messianic Hope*, chap. v; volume on Isaiah; "International Critical Commentary." *Cambridge, Bible for Schools and Colleges, Century Bible, and Bible for Home and Schools.*

Consult Hastings' *Dictionary of the Bible* one-volume and four-volume editions, on Syria, Assyria, Book of Isaiah, Isaiah, Babylonia, Jerusalem, Hezekiah, Merodach-baladan, Rabshakeh, Sennacherib, Shalmaneser.